

Waterfront & Economic Development Committee Manhattan Community Board Nine

Savona Bailey-McClain, Committee Co-Chair, Eileen Merritt, Committee Co-Chair
Jane Arrendell, Vicky Gholson Ph.D., Linda Walton, Ernestine Welch, Board Committee
Members, Maritta Dunn, Mark Irgang, Carmen Irgang, Public Member

Committee Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2009

The meeting opened at 6:45 p.m. by Committee Co-Chairs Eileen Merritt and Savona Bailey-McClain

Present: Savona Bailey-McClain, Eileen Merritt, Linda Walton, Jane Arrendell,
Ernestine Welch, Mark Irgang

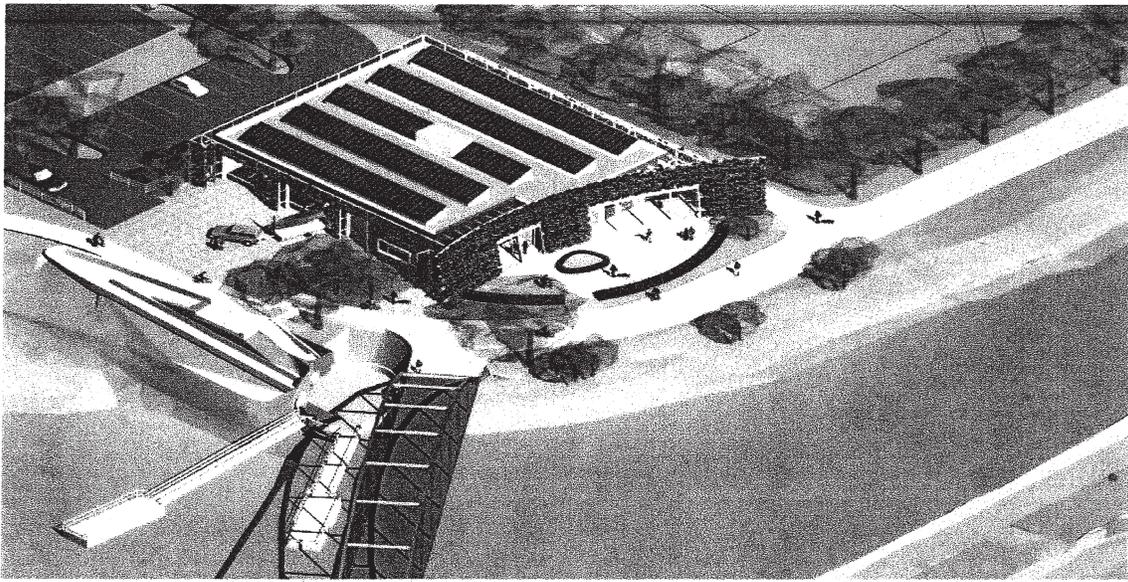
Guests: Dawn Henning, Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice

Adoption of agenda was approved.

Presentations:

Our primary presentation was made by Ms. Dawn Henning from Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice. She made a Power Point presentation on her organization and what they are developing on the Bronx River. Ms. Henning shared how her organization has done extensive outreach in the community on how to re-connect with their waterfront which is separated by highway. YMPJ petitioned the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation to allow the community to have a park in the SE section of the Bronx between Elder Avenue and Morrison Avenue.

YMPJ organized a community charette where they developed a vision for the Starlight Park which used to be a very industrial section of the Bronx off the river. The site looks very similar to the former Marine Transfer Station in CB9. Many of the components we have discussed are also incorporated in this plan – green roof, solar panels, etc. And we learned that the Bronx is also experiencing problems with Amtrak regarding building any structures over their railways.



The project is included in the Mayor's 2030 plan so there is precedent for our community to ask for green walls and a solar roof. The Starlight Park is considered a potential shovel ready project that could get stimulus money.

The Bronx community faced many of the same challenges that we are presently facing over our Marine Transfer Station. We offered to support YMPJ's effort to realize their project and asked that they do the same for us. Many questions were asked and Ms. Henning promised to email her images to our Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.